

## Message Text

PAGE 01 MANAGU 03062 102201Z

67

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 NIC-01 AID-20 PC-04 DODE-00

PM-07 H-02 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

RSR-01 HEW-08 MED-03 /140 W  
----- 045317

R 102110Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1985

INFO AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 3062

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB NU

SUBJECT: LABOR TROUBLES CONTINUE

REF: MANAGUA 2991 AND 2996

1. STRIKES CONTINUE IN TWO CRITICAL SECTORS OF NICARAGUA'S RECOVERY EFFORT. THE CONSTRUCTION WORKERS' STRIKE ENTERS ITS FOURTH WEEK WITH AN ESTIMATED 5,000 MEN STAYING OFF THE JOB AND ALL MAJOR CONSTRUCTION IN THE MANAGUA AREA AT A STANDSTILL. STRIKING DOCTORS AND INTERNS AT THE THREE MAJOR PUBLIC HOSPITALS HAVE LEFT MOST OF THE POPULACE WITHOUT ADEQUATE INPATIENT HOSPITAL FACILITIES.

2. THE GON HAS TAKEN A HARD LINE AGAINST THE SCAAS, THE COMMUNIST-ORIENTED CONSTRUCTION WORKERS' UNION, IN AN EFFORT TO BREAK THE CONSTRUCTION STRIKE. ABOUT 30 LEADERS OF SCAAS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED SINCE FRIDAY, JULY 6, WHEN THE NATIONAL GUARD RAIDED THE SCAAS HEADQUARTERS AND HAULED AWAY EQUIPMENT AND  
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MANAGU 03062 102201Z

PROPAGANDA FOUND THERE. AMONG THOSE ARRESTED WAS FRANCISCO MEDRANO, PRINCIPAL NEGOTIATOR FOR SCAAS' SUCCESSFUL STRIKE IN APRIL 1973, WHICH FORCED A RETURN TO THE 48 HOUR WEEK. IN AN EFFORT TO BYPASS SCAAS, GENERAL SOMOZA HAS PUBLICLY ORDERED

THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS TO IMPORT WORKERS FROM THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENTS TO REPLACE STRIKERS WORKING ON GOVERNMENT PROJECTS. RELIEF FROM THIS SOURCE IS UNLIKELY, HOWEVER, BECAUSE MOST SKILLED CONSTRUCTION WORKERS WHO LIVED OUTSIDE THE CAPITAL, HAVE LONG SINCE BEEN RECRUITED FOR WORK IN MANAGUA. COMMENT: SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS TO SETTLE THE CONSTRUCTION STRIKE ARE UNLIKELY SO LONG AS THE GON CONINUES TO DETAIN SCAAS LEADERS. AT THE SAME TIME, THE STRIKING WORKERS FEEL LITTLE PRESSURE TO RETURN TO WORK AT THE MAJOR CONSTRUCTION SITES. WITH AN ENTIRE CITY REBUILDING, MOST OF THE SKILLED LABORERS CAN READILY FIND EMPLOYMENT WITH SMALL REPAIR JOBS ON PRIVATE HOMES OR BUSINESSES WHILE MANY OF THE UNSKILLED HAVE SIMPLY RETURNED TO THEIR FARM HOMES FOR THE PLANTING SEASON. WITH THESE ECONOMIC FALL BACKS, THE UNION MEMBERSHIP CAN RESIST GON PRESSURES AND ENDURE A LONG STRIKE. END COMMENT.

3. IN ACTING AGAINST THE "ILLEGAL" HOSPITAL STRIKE, THE MINISTER OF GOVERNMENT HAS ORDERED STRIKING DOCTORS AND INTERNS REPLACED AND SOCIAL SECURITY AND NATIONAL GUARD DOCTORS HAVE BEEN CALLED IN BY THE GON TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY HOSPITAL CARE. THE STRIKING DOCTORS AND INTERNS ARE DEMANDING A 50 PERCENT INCREASE IN SALARY. REPORTS THAT THE NURSES AND NURSES AIDES WILL SOON JOIN THE STRIKE PERSIST. NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE. THE GON IS PREPARED TO CONSIDER ADJUSTMENTS TO INCREASE TAKE-HOME PAY BY ELIMINATING MANDATORY SALARY DEDUCTIONS SUCH AS THE 5 PERCENT CONTRIBUTION TO THE LIBERAL PARTY (PLN) OR PAYING OVERTIME BUT IT RESISTS A SALRY INCREASE. SHELTON

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 10 MAY 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 JUL 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** elyme  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973MANAGU03062  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** MANAGUA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730768/abqcefww.tel  
**Line Count:** 85  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** MANAGUA 2991 AND 2996  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** elyme  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 17 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <17-Jan-2002 by thigpegh>; APPROVED <06-Feb-2002 by elyme>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:**  
**Subject:** LABOR TROUBLES CONTINUE  
**TAGS:** ELAB, NU  
**To:** STATE INFO TEGUCIGALPA  
SAN JOSE  
GUATEMALA  
SAN SALVADOR  
USCINCSO FOR POLAD  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

